

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
San Antonio Fire Department
MEMORANDUM

TO: SAFD and DSD Associates
FROM: Abel Flores, Fire Marshal
DATE: April 18, 2006
FILE: Code Interpretation Manual

INTERPRETATION NUMBER: CI2006-017

TITLE: Requirements for "Separate" Fire Apparatus Access Roads for Multiple-Family Residential Developments

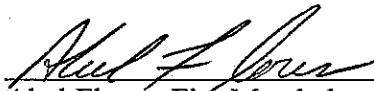
CODE EDITION: 2003 International Fire Code (IFC) as amended by COSA

SECTION: D106

PURPOSE: To clarify the City's definition and requirements for "separate" fire apparatus access roads when required by Section D106.

QUESTION: When required by Section D106, what does the City consider as meeting the definition of "separate" fire apparatus access roads?

ANSWER: See SAFD Policy #FP06004



Abel Flores, Fire Marshal
San Antonio Fire Department



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

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April 10, 2006

Policy #FP06004

Memorandum for record

From: San Antonio Fire Marshal's Office

Subject: Fire code interpretation 2003 IFC section D106

It is the formal interpretation of the San Antonio Fire Marshal's office that the intent of the 2003 international fire code, section D106, two separate and approved fire apparatus access roads, is met if the following conditions are met.

1. A minimum of two separate entrances into the complex is made into the complex from the street or public way.
2. The distance between the two entrances be a distance apart equal to not less than one half of the length of the maximum overall diagonal dimension of the property or area to be served, measured in a straight line between accesses, as per 2003 IFC section D104.3

Exception: Where it is physically impossible to be one half the diagonal dimension apart the access road will be approved if the following conditions are met:

1. The two separate fire apparatus access road must be separated as far as physically and practically possible.
2. The two separate entrances must by a minimum of 150 feet apart measured in a straight line between accesses.
3. The two separate entrances are allowed to share a common path of travel on the complex site so long as blockage in any one area of this path does not block access from both the primary and secondary access simultaneously.
4. Each of the two separate fire apparatus roads shall meet the requirements of the 2003 IFC section 503, fire apparatus access roads.

Chief Abel Flores,
Fire Marshal
City of San Antonio Fire Prevention